



# A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE CAN LEAD A HEALTHY AND FULFILLING LIFE





**Prof. Dr. Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp**  
**Chairman of Merck Foundation Board of Trustees**  
**& Former Chairman of Executive Board of E. Merck KG**

## *Message from* **Prof. Dr. Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp**

Born in 1948 in Dorsten, Germany. Following his German University entrance qualification (Abitur) he served with the German Air Force, which he left as Lieutenant.

At the University of Freiburg/Br. he studied economics and economic history. After completing his studies he worked at Commerzbank and the Investment Banks Baring Brothers and Hambros in London.

In 1984 he was elected to the Board of Partners of E. Merck KG and has been the Chairman of the Board from 2004 to 2014.

From January 2014 until January 2024 he was Chairman of the Executive Board and the Family Board of E. Merck KG and was the Head of the Merck Family.

# OUR VISION

**A World Where Everyone Can Lead  
A Healthy And Fulfilling Life**



## **Merck Foundation: Who We Are**

The Merck Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Merck KGaA Germany that aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people and advance their lives through Science and Technology.

Our efforts are primarily focused on improving access to quality & equitable healthcare solutions, building healthcare, scientific research & media capacity, breaking infertility stigma and supporting girl education.

## **Merck Foundation strives to**



work closely with partners that are **First Ladies of African and Asian Countries, Ministries of Health, Education, Information & Communication, Gender, Academia, Research Institutions, Media and Art** to build health care capacity, media capacity and address the health, social and economic challenges in developing countries and under-served communities.

Merck Foundation has been recognized as the **2024 and 2022 NGO of the Year, the Most Influential NGO Shaping Africa's Future** and also received the **'Best Health Sector Philanthropy' Award 2023**.



**Senator Dr. Rasha Kelej (Ret.)**  
**CEO of Merck Foundation**  
**Most Influential African (2019 - Present)**  
**President of 'More Than a Mother' Campaign**  
**President of Merck Foundation First Ladies Initiative Committee**



## *Message from* **Dr. Rasha Kelej**

I am extremely proud to be the CEO of Merck Foundation and work together with all of you to realize our vision of a world where everyone can lead a healthy and fulfilling life.

Through Merck Foundation, we will continue to execute many impactful programs and will considerably expand its scope to address the health, social and economic challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

It gives me a great honor to work closely with my dear sisters, the First Ladies of Africa and Asia, who are also the Ambassadors of Merck Foundation "More than a Mother" to reshape the future and make history together.

**Together with our Ambassadors and Partners, we will continue our commitment towards transforming the patient care landscape, improving access to quality & equitable healthcare solutions, and raising awareness about a wide range of critical social and health issues such as; Breaking Infertility Stigma, Supporting Girl Education, Ending FGM & Child Marriage, Stopping GBV, Diabetes & Hypertension Awareness in developing countries & underserved communities.**

We will continue to focus on building healthcare & scientific research and media capacity, empowering girls, women, and youth in education with a special focus on STEM.

At Merck Foundation, we touch people's lives and make a difference every day.

# OUR MISSION



## What We Do

**Together with its partners, the Merck Foundation aims to:**

- Expand professional capabilities in healthcare, research and media.
- Improve access to innovative and equitable healthcare solutions.
- Empower women and youth in education with a special focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).
- Build advocacy to address health, social and economic challenges.
- Raise awareness on disease prevention and early detection through access to information, health and change of mindset.

The Merck Foundation focuses on activities that contribute towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as outlined by the United Nations.



# "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother"

## No to Infertility Stigma

"Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" is a strong movement that aims to empower infertile and childless women through access to information, education and change of mindset. This powerful campaign supports in defining policies and interventions to build quality and equitable Reproductive and Fertility Care Capacity, Break Infertility Stigma and Raise Awareness about Infertility Prevention and Male Infertility. In partnership with African and Asian First Ladies, Ministries of Health, Information, Education & Gender, Academia, Policymakers, International Fertility Societies, Media and Art, this initiative also provides training for Sexual, Reproductive & Fertility specialists and Embryologists to build and advance Fertility care capacity in Africa, Asia and developing countries.



With "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother", we have initiated a cultural shift to de-stigmatize infertility at all levels, by improving awareness, training local experts in the fields of fertility care and media, building advocacy in cooperation with African and Asian First Ladies & Women Leaders and by supporting childless women in starting their own small businesses. It's all about giving every woman the respect and the help she deserves to lead a fulfilling life, with or without a child.

### Our Ambassadors of "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" are:

H.E. Dr. ANA DIAS LOURENÇO

H.E. Mrs. KAONE BOKO

H.E. Madam ANGELINE NDAYISHIMIYE

H.E. Dr. DÉBORA KATISA CARVALHO

H.E. Madam BRIGITTE TOUADERA

H.E. Madam DENISE NYAKERU TSHISEKEDI

H.E. Madam ZITA OLIGUI NGUEMA

H.E. Mrs. FATOUMATTA BAH-BARROW

H.E. Mrs. LORDINA DRAMANI MAHAM

H.E. Mrs. RACHEL RUTO E.G.H.

H.E. Mrs. KARTUMU YARTA BOAKAI

H.E. Prof. GETRUDE MUTHARIKA

H.E. Mrs. SAJIDHA MOHAMED

H.E. Dr. GUETA SULEMANE CHAPO

H.E. Senator OLUREMI TINUBU, CON

H.E. Mrs. MARIA DE FATIMA VILA NOVA

H.E. Madam MARIE KHONE FAYE

H.E. Dr. FATIMA MAADA BIO

H.E. Mrs. MUTINTA HICHILEMA

H.E. Amai Dr. AUXILLIA MNANGAGWA

First Lady of the Republic of Angola

First Lady of Republic of Botswana

First Lady of the Republic of Burundi

First Lady of the Republic of Cabo Verde

First Lady of Central African Republic

First Lady of Democratic Republic of the Congo

First Lady of the Gabonese Republic

First Lady of the Republic of The Gambia

First Lady of the Republic of Ghana

First Lady of the Republic of Kenya

First Lady of the Republic of Liberia

First Lady of the Republic of Malawi

First Lady of the Republic of Maldives

First Lady of the Republic of Mozambique

First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

First Lady of the Democratic Republic of São Tomé & Príncipe

First Lady of the Republic of Senegal

First Lady of the Republic of Sierra Leone

First Lady of the Republic of Zambia

First Lady of the Republic of Zimbabwe



Over the past 10 years, more than

**33** African and Asian First Ladies are Ambassadors of "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" Campaign



**355+** Fertility specialists and Embryologists trained & **414+** Scholarships provided for PG Diploma and Master Degree in Sexual and Reproductive Medicine, Clinical Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Women's Health, Biotechnology of Human Assisted Reproduction & Embryology, Urology, Laparoscopic Surgical Skills for doctors from **42** countries

Partnership with

**42** African Ministries

of Health, Education, Gender & Information and Academia

Trained more than **3700** Media Representatives From more than **35** Countries

Around **30** Songs

created and produced with many young talented musicians and singers across Africa in English, French, Portuguese and Local languages

**Millions** of women benefitted from



"Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" Community Awareness Campaign

**9** Inspiring Children Storybooks in four Languages- English, French, Portuguese and Swahili to raise awareness on critical social issues such as breaking infertility stigma, supporting girl education, ending child marriage & FGM, stopping GBV, and health issues like promoting early detection, prevention and management of diabetes, hypertension, and cancer.

**6** ANIMATION FILMS BY MERCK FOUNDATION created in five languages - English, French, Portuguese, Swahili and Spanish Adaptations of the Children Storybooks

MORE THAN

**8.5** Million Followers on Social Media



**15** Episodes of "Our Africa" by Merck Foundation Pan African TV program broadcasted across the continent



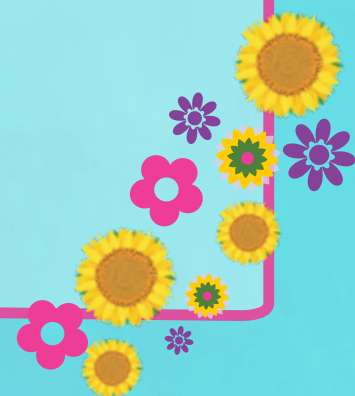


**Merck Foundation** is making history in many African countries where they never had Fertility Specialists or Specialized Fertility Clinics before "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" intervention, by training the first Fertility Specialists and Embryologists such as in Burundi, Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Malawi, Niger, Sierra Leone and The Gambia. Merck Foundation supported the training of the staff of the first public IVF centers in Ethiopia, Guinea, Myanmar, Niger, Rwanda and Burundi.

"Merck Foundation More Than a Father" is a twin campaign of "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother", which focuses on Fertility being a Shared Responsibility as infertility affects both men and women equally. About 50% of the causes of infertility are due to or include male factors.

Merck Foundation has launched many initiatives to sensitize local communities about infertility prevention, male infertility with the aim to break the stigma of infertility and empowering infertile and childless women as part of "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" COMMUNITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, such as;

- Merck Foundation Health Media Training
- Merck Foundation Media Recognition Awards "More Than a Mother"
- Merck Foundation Fashion Awards "More Than a Mother"
- Merck Foundation Film Awards "More Than a Mother"
- Merck Foundation Song Awards "More Than a Mother"
- Songs with local artists
- Children storybooks localized for each country in English, French and Portuguese
- Merck Foundation Animation Films





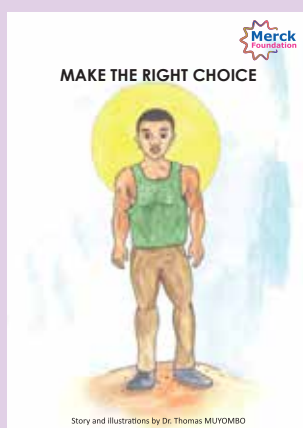
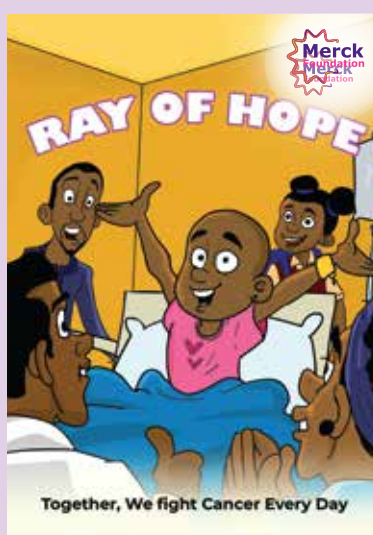
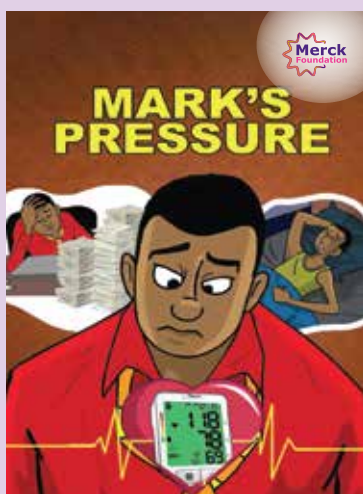
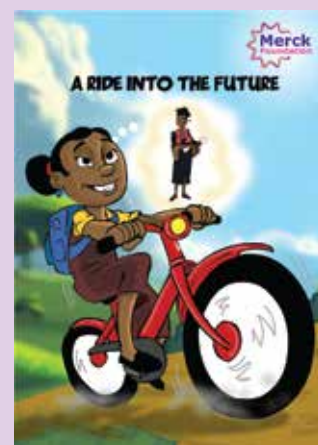
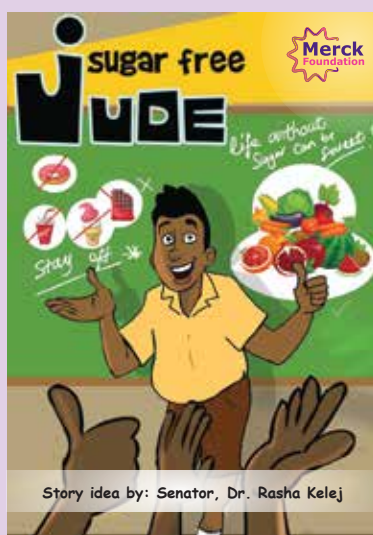
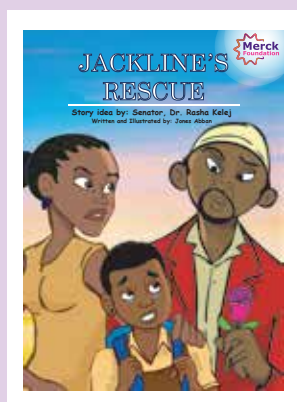
## Merck Foundation First Ladies Initiative

### MFFLI Summit

MFFLI - SUMMIT is the Merck Foundation platform of African and Asian First Ladies and Merck Foundation "More Than a Mother" Ambassadors established with the aim to discuss challenges, define solutions, measure impact and share experience to ensure continuous improvement and exchange variable aspects of different cultures in order to localize and/or standardize specific messages that can raise awareness and create a culture shift across Africa with regards to the below objectives:

- Advocating for Breaking Infertility Stigma, Supporting Girl Education, Ending Child Marriage & FGM, Women Empowerment, Stopping GBV and raising awareness about Diabetes & Hypertension Prevention and Early Detection
- Empowering Girls and Women in Education in general and in STEM in particular
- Improving access to quality & equitable healthcare solutions and transforming patient care landscape in more than 44 critical & underserved specialties

Over the past 10 years, **more than 33 First Ladies of African and Asian Countries** have partnered with Merck Foundation to lead and execute the initiatives in their respective countries as "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" Ambassadors.



# MERCK FOUNDATION COMMUNITY AWARENESS PROGRAM

## Together We Create a Cultural Shift

Merck Foundation strongly believes that art and media play a significant role to be the voice of the voiceless and raise awareness about sensitive social and health issues in Africa & underserved communities.

Merck Foundation has established "Fashion & Art with Purpose" Community, consisting of young African talents in Fashion, Music and Filmmaking, which can catalyze a movement to bring about a culture shift in Africa.

To sensitize local communities about critical social & health issues, Merck Foundation has launched initiatives such as: Health Media Training, Media Recognition Awards, Fashion Awards, Song Awards and Film Awards.

Merck Foundation has also partnered with local artists and created 30 songs in English, French, Portuguese and local language to sensitize communities on social and health issues.

Merck Foundation has created 9 children stories localized for each country in order to develop strong family values of love and respect from young age, address social issues such as breaking infertility stigma, supporting girl education, ending child marriage & FGM, stopping GBV, and health issues like promoting early detection, prevention and management of diabetes, hypertension, and cancer.

Merck Foundation has also launched 6 animation films in five languages: English, French, Portuguese, Swahili and Spanish to raise awareness about these social and health issues in a very entertaining way.

## Merck Foundation Africa Media Recognition Awards "More Than a Mother" 2026

**Theme:** Media representatives and media students are invited to showcase their work to raise awareness about one or more of the following social issues such as: Breaking Infertility Stigma, Supporting Girl Education, Women Empowerment, Ending Child Marriage, Ending FGM, and/ or Stopping GBV at all levels.

**Who can apply:** Journalists from Print, Radio, Online, and Multimedia platforms from the following groups:

- 1) Southern African Countries
- 2) West African Countries
- 3) East African Countries
- 4) African French-Speaking Countries
- 5) African Portuguese-Speaking Countries

**How to Apply:** Entries can be submitted via email to [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

Sending multiple applications will increase the chances of winning the award.

### Call for Applications

**Submission by:**  
**30<sup>th</sup> September 2026**

Categories	Print Media	Online Media	Radio	Multimedia
Prize money	500 USD	500 USD	500 USD	500 USD

- The selection committee may decide to grant awards to more winners for each category based on the number and quality of applications received.
- Submissions can be on one or more topics mentioned in the theme above.
- Submissions should be published and available in the public domain in order to be eligible.
- Winners will be publicly announced.

 Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation  
[submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com) | [www.merck-foundation.com](http://www.merck-foundation.com)

## Merck Foundation Film Awards "More Than a Mother" 2026

**For African Countries**  
**Call for Applications**

**Who can apply?**  
All African Filmmakers, Students of Film Making Training Institutions or Young Talents of Africa are invited to create and share long or short FILM/ FILMS, either drama, documentary, or discursive to deliver strong and influential messages to address one or more of the following social issues such as: Breaking Infertility Stigma, Supporting Girl Education, Women Empowerment, Ending Child Marriage, Ending FGM, and/ or Stopping GBV at all levels.

**Last Date of Submission:** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2026

**How to Apply?** Please share your work on YouTube link or [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

**The subject line of the mail should mention:**  
Merck Foundation Film Awards "More Than a Mother" 2026

Please specify your name, contact name, country, language and contact details in the mail. Also, please share a short brief about the issue you are addressing.

**Categories:** English, French, Portuguese, Arabic

**Prize Money: USD 500 for each category**

Selection committee can decide to award more than one winner for each category based on the quality of work received.

Winners will be publicly announced.

 Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation  
[submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com) | [www.merck-foundation.com](http://www.merck-foundation.com)

## Merck Foundation FASHION AWARDS "More Than a Mother" 2026

**For African Countries**  
**Call for Applications**

**Who can apply?**  
All African Fashion Students and Designers are invited to create and share their original designs to address one or more of the following social issues such as: Breaking Infertility Stigma, Supporting Girl Education, Women Empowerment, Ending Child Marriage, Ending FGM, and/ or Stopping GBV at all levels.

**Last Date of Submission:** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2026

**How to Apply?** Please share your original sketches as attachments to [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

**The subject line of the mail should mention:**  
Merck Foundation Fashion Awards "More Than a Mother" 2026

Please specify your name, contact name, and contact details in the mail.

**10 winners will be granted \$500 each to execute their designs.**

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[submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com) | [www.merck-foundation.com](http://www.merck-foundation.com)

## Merck Foundation SONG AWARDS "More Than a Mother" 2026

**For African Countries**  
**Call for Applications**

**Who can apply?**  
All African Singers and Musical Artists are invited to create and share a SONG with the aim to address one or more of the following social issues such as: Breaking Infertility Stigma, Supporting Girl Education, Women Empowerment, Ending Child Marriage, Ending FGM, and/ or Stopping GBV at all levels.

**Last Date of Submission:** 30<sup>th</sup> September 2026

**How to Apply?** Please share your work as audio file or YouTube link on [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

**The subject line of the mail should mention:**  
Merck Foundation Song Awards "More Than a Mother" 2026

Please specify your name, contact name, and lyrics of the song in the mail.

**Categories:** English, French, Portuguese, Arabic

**Prize Money: USD 500 for each category**

Selection committee can decide to award more than one winner for each category based on the quality of work received.

Winners will be publicly announced.

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[submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com) | [www.merck-foundation.com](http://www.merck-foundation.com)

## Merck Foundation MEDIA RECOGNITION AWARDS 2026 "Diabetes & Hypertension"

**Call for Applications**

**Theme:** Strong and influential messages to promote a healthy lifestyle and raising awareness about prevention and early detection of Diabetes & Hypertension.

**Who can apply:** Journalists from Print, Radio, Online, and Multimedia platforms from the following groups:

- 1) Southern African Countries
- 2) West African Countries
- 3) East African Countries
- 4) African French Speaking Countries
- 5) African Portuguese Speaking Countries
- 6) Latin American Countries
- 7) Asian Countries

**Last date of Submission:** 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026

**How to Apply:** Entries can be submitted via email to [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

Sending multiple applications will increase the chances of winning the award.

**Categories:** Print Media, Online Media, Radio, Multimedia

- The selection committee may decide to grant awards to more winners in each category based on the number and quality of applications received to give better opportunities for each region.
- Submissions should be published and available in a public domain in order to be eligible.
- Winners will be publicly announced.

 Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation  
[submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com) | [www.merck-foundation.com](http://www.merck-foundation.com)

## Merck Foundation Film Awards 2026 "Diabetes & Hypertension"

**FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES**

All African Filmmakers, Students of Film Making Training Institutions or Young Talents of Africa are invited to create and share long or short FILM/ FILMS, either drama, documentary or discursive to deliver strong and influential messages to promote healthy lifestyle and raising awareness about prevention and early detection of Diabetes and Hypertension.

**Last Date of Submission:** 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026

**How to Apply?** Please share your work on YouTube link or [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

**The subject line of the mail should mention:**  
Merck Foundation Film Awards "Diabetes & Hypertension" 2026

Please specify your name, contact name, country, language and contact details in the mail. Also, please share a short brief about the issue you are addressing.

**Categories:** English, French, Portuguese, Arabic

**Prize Money: USD 500 for each category**

Selection committee can decide to award more than one winner for each category based on the quality of work received.

Winners will be publicly announced.

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## Merck Foundation SONG AWARDS 2026 "Diabetes & Hypertension"

**For African Countries**  
**Call for Applications**

**Who can apply?**  
All African Singers and Musical Artists are invited to create and share a SONG with the aim to promote a healthy lifestyle and raise awareness about prevention and early detection of Diabetes and Hypertension.

**Last Date of Submission:** 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026

**How to Apply?** Please share your song as an audio file or YouTube link on [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

**The Subject line of the mail should mention:**  
Merck Foundation Song Award 2026 "Diabetes & Hypertension"

Please share your Name, Country, Contact Details and Lyrics of the song in the mail.

**Categories:** English, French, Portuguese, Arabic

**Prize Money: USD 500 for each category**

Selection Committee can decide to award more than one winner for each category based on the quality of work received.

Winners will be publicly announced.

 Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation  
[submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com) | [www.merck-foundation.com](http://www.merck-foundation.com)

## Merck Foundation FASHION AWARDS 2026 "Diabetes & Hypertension"

**For African countries**  
**Call for Applications**

**Who can apply?**  
All African Fashion Students and Designers are invited to create and share designs to deliver strong and influential messages to promote a healthy lifestyle and raise awareness about prevention and early detection of Diabetes and Hypertension.

**Last Date of Submission:** 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026

**How to Apply?** Please share your original sketches as attachments to [submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com)

**The subject line of the mail should mention:**  
Merck Foundation Fashion Awards "Diabetes & Hypertension"

Please specify your name, contact name, and contact details in the mail.

**10 winners will be granted \$500 each to execute their designs.**

 Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation |  Merck Foundation  
[submit@merck-foundation.com](mailto:submit@merck-foundation.com) | [www.merck-foundation.com](http://www.merck-foundation.com)



- **Merck Foundation Health Media Training**

Trained over **3700** media representatives from over **35** countries to create a culture shift by raising awareness about social and health issues like Breaking Infertility Stigma, Supporting Girl Education, Ending Child Marriage, Stopping GBV and raising awareness about early detection and prevention of Diabetes & Hypertension.

- **8** important Awards, under two themes:

- 1) **"Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" Awards to Break Infertility Stigma, Support Girls' Education, End Child Marriage, End FGM, Stop GBV and/ or Women Empowerment at all levels.**

- a) Merck Foundation "More than a Mother" Media Recognition Awards
- b) Merck Foundation "More than a Mother" Fashion Awards
- c) Merck Foundation "More than a Mother" Film Awards
- d) Merck Foundation "More than a Mother" Song Awards

- 2) **Merck Foundation "Diabetes and Hypertension" Awards to Promote a healthy lifestyle and raise awareness about prevention and early detection of Diabetes and Hypertension.**

- a) Merck Foundation "Diabetes and Hypertension" Media Recognition Awards
- b) Merck Foundation "Diabetes and Hypertension" Fashion Awards
- c) Merck Foundation "Diabetes and Hypertension" Film Awards
- d) Merck Foundation "Diabetes and Hypertension" Song Awards

- **9** Inspiring Children Storybooks in four languages- English, French, Portuguese and Swahili

To raise awareness on critical social issues such as breaking infertility stigma, supporting girl education, ending child marriage & FGM, stopping GBV, and health issues like promoting early detection, prevention and management of diabetes, hypertension, and cancer.

- **6** Animation Films in five languages - English, French, Portuguese, Swahili and Spanish Adaptations of Children Storybooks

- **Around 30** Songs created and produced with many young talented musicians and singers across Africa in English, French, Portuguese and Local Languages.

- **3** special songs have been composed and sung by The Former President of Liberia, H.E. Mr. GEORGE WEAH; The Former First Lady of Burundi and ITEKA Lucky Louange (Lucky-Lou), the daughter of the current President of Burundi, H.E. Mr. ÉVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE & H.E. Madam ANGELINE NDAYISHIMIYE for "Merck Foundation More than a Mother".

- **"Our Africa by Merck Foundation", a Pan African TV program broadcasted across the African continent.**


Uses interesting and entertaining mediums like fashion, music, and art to address sensitive social and health issues like Breaking the Infertility Stigma, Ending Child Marriage, Supporting Girl Education, Ending Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Stopping GBV, Promoting a Healthy Lifestyle, Diabetes Awareness and Coronavirus Health Awareness.

- **Educational and Awareness Materials in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish**

Ensures easy access to knowledge about causes, prevention & management about issues like infertility and diabetes.

- **15** Social Media Channels with over **8.5** Million Followers

The followers are constantly engaged through high-impact awareness content.





## MERCK FOUNDATION CANCER ACCESS PROGRAM

### Together We Can Fight Cancer Every Day

The "Merck Foundation Cancer Access Program" is part of Merck Foundation's commitment to improve patients' access to quality and equitable cancer care in underserved communities.

The lack of financial means is not the only challenge in Africa and developing countries, but a scarcity of trained health care personnel capable to tackle the prevention, early diagnosis and management of cancer at all levels of the health care systems is even a bigger challenge.

As a part of their Cancer Access Program, Merck Foundation provided **239 scholarships** for healthcare providers from **35 countries** as per the following;

**Merck Foundation is establishing Multidisciplinary Oncology Care teams in many African countries and beyond** by providing scholarships of **One year clinical training** in most of oncology subspecialties such as; Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Pediatrics Oncology, Gynecology Oncology, Breast Oncology, Haemato-Oncology, Orthopedic Oncology, Palliative Care, Pathology Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Research in Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Genital Urinary oncology, Advanced Cytopathology Training, Interventional Radiology, Radiation Technician, Laboratory Technician, Oncology Nursing.

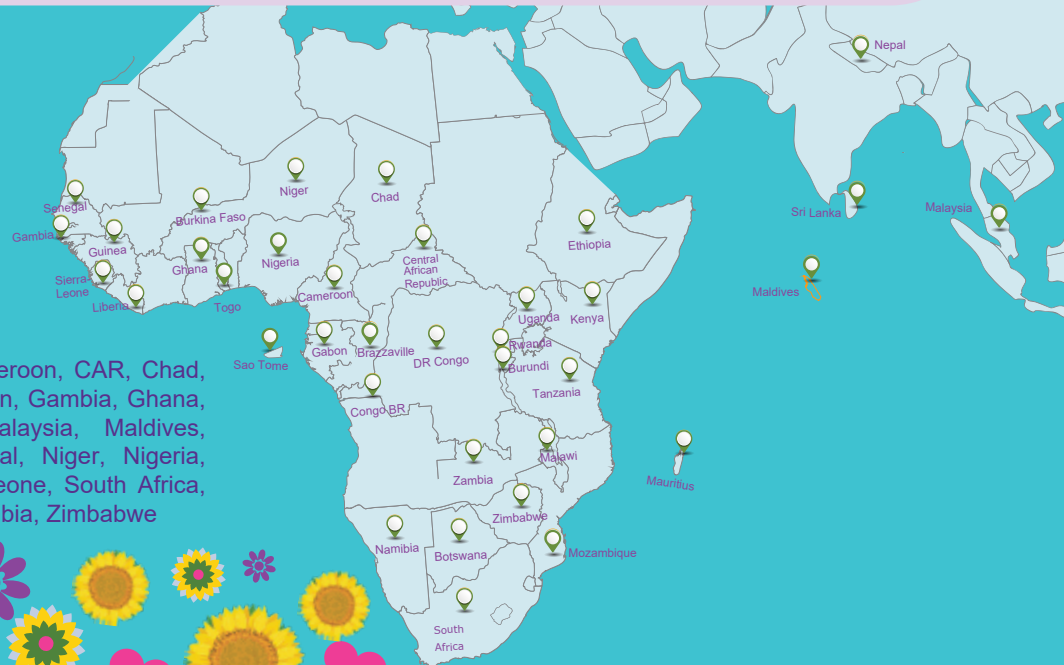
Moreover, Merck Foundation provides **one year and two year Post Graduate Diploma and Master Degree** of Cancer and Clinical Oncology, Medical Oncology and Pain Management from reputed Universities in UK like University of South Wales, University of Buckingham, Queen Mary University of London, and Cardiff University.



Merck Foundation has provided **239** scholarships to train Oncologists from **35** countries to build Cancer Care Capacity across Africa and beyond.


Merck Foundation has provided training for the First Local Oncologist in many countries such as: The Gambia, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Burundi.

Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, DRC, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe



Dr. Rasha Kelej with Merck Foundation Oncology Alumni from Ethiopia, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia.



**Dr. Samuel Mucheru**  
Kenya   
Merck Foundation Alumni

## MERCK FOUNDATION NATIONWIDE DIABETES & HYPERTENSION BLUE POINTS PROGRAM

### Building Nationwide Diabetes & Hypertension Care Capacity

**Merck Foundation Nationwide Diabetes & Hypertension Blue Points Program** is dedicated to enhancing access to equitable and quality healthcare in the fields of \*Diabetes, Endocrinology, Hypertension, Nutrition, and Obesity & Weight Management\* through partnerships with UK universities for doctors from various provinces, Asia and Latin America; by providing One-year Postgraduate Diploma and Two-year Master Degree in Diabetes, Endocrinology, Preventative Cardiovascular Medicine, Cardiology, Clinical counties or districts of respective countries, ensuring geographical coverage of the whole country.

Additionally, scholarships are provided for One-Year On-site Clinical Training Program in Diabetes & Hypertension, in India.

Moreover, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish-speaking Doctors from Africa, Asia and Latin America are provided with a **3-months Online Mastercourse** endorsed by Diabetes UK, in their respective languages.

More than **925** scholarships to doctors from **44** countries as a part of the "Merck Foundation Nationwide Diabetes & Hypertension Blue Points Program"

On completion of these courses, graduates are able to set up specialty clinics in the Public Sector of their respective countries.

**30,000** students from Medical Universities have benefitted from Clinical Diabetes and

Hypertension Management Program from 2012 – 2016 in **9** countries: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana, Angola, Mozambique, India and Indonesia.





## MERCK FOUNDATION CAPACITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

Together We Advance People's Lives

Through the "Merck Foundation Capacity Advancement Program" our endeavor is to build

healthcare capacity in **24** critical and underserved specialties. As a part of this program, we provide scholarships for One-year Postgraduate Diploma and Two-year Master Degree courses in the following specialties:


- Dermatology in Clinical Practice
- Rheumatology
- Paediatric Emergency Medicine
- Gastroenterology
- Primary Care Ophthalmology
- Internal Medicine
- Orthopaedics
- Paediatric & Child Health
- Respiratory Medicine
- Acute Medicine
- Infectious Diseases
- Emergency & Resuscitation Medicine
- Stroke Medicine
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Care of the Older Person
- Haematology
- Renal Medicine
- Critical Care
- Neonatal Medicine
- Advanced Surgical Practice
- General Surgery
- Neuroimaging for Research
- Trauma & Orthopedics

**More than 529** scholarships have been provided for doctors from **29** countries across Africa and Asia, as a part of "Merck Foundation Capacity Advancement Program"



During the COVID-19 global pandemic, Merck Foundation initiated the **Coronavirus Response Program** to improve healthcare capacity by providing one-year Online Post Graduate Diploma and two-year Master Degree in Respiratory Medicine, Emergency & Resuscitation Medicine, Acute Medicine, Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases and Critical Care, from UK Universities. So far, more than **158** scholarships have been provided for doctors from African and Asian Countries.

By educating and training Medical graduates, Merck Foundation want to essentially strengthen the local capacities and enhance Clinical Management. The goal is to raise awareness for these health conditions as well as to support healthcare systems with measures to prevent, diagnose and manage them effectively.



**Dr. Peva F. Gbagornah**  
Liberia 🇱🇮  
Merck Foundation Alumni

Merck Foundation has provided more than **2400** Scholarships for Healthcare providers across **52** countries in **44** critical and underserved Medical Specialties

Bangladesh 34

Benin 3

Botswana 56

Burkina Faso 13

Burundi 55

Cambodia 3

Cameroon 28

CAR 5

Chad 30

Congo  
Brazzaville 8

Cote D'Ivoire 23

DRC 98

Egypt 6

Ethiopia 30

Gabon 7

The Gambia 94

Ghana 228

Guinea 16

Indonesia 21

Kenya 286

Lesotho 19

Liberia 52

Malawi 59

Malaysia 45



Maldives 18

Mali 6

Mauritius 100

Mexico 17

Mozambique 20

Myanmar 14

Namibia 100

Nepal 45

Niger 29

Nigeria 81

Peru 14

Philippines 28

Russia 6

Rwanda 55

São Tomé 5

Senegal 29

Sierra Leone 55

South Africa 10

Sri Lanka 12

Sudan 19

Tanzania 79

Thailand 1

Togo 16

UAE 3

Uganda 89

Vietnam 4

Zambia 220

Zimbabwe 166



Post Graduate Diploma and Master Degree in Diabetes, Preventative Cardiovascular Medicine, Endocrinology, Sexual and Reproductive Medicine, Acute Medicine, Respiratory Medicine and Cancer & Clinical Oncology, Diabetes Mastercourse in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, Master Degree in Biotechnology of Human Assisted Reproduction and Embryology, Clinical Psychiatry, Dermatology in Clinical practice, Rheumatology and Gastroenterology.

Post Graduate Diploma in Emergency and Resuscitation Medicine, Critical Care, Neonatal Medicine, Advanced Surgical Practice, Pain Management, Psychiatry, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Urology, General Surgery, Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Primary Care Ophthalmology, Internal Medicine, Neuroimaging for Research, Laparoscopic Surgical Skills & Trauma and Orthopedics, Women's Health, Pediatrics & Child Health, Infectious Diseases, Family Medicine, Medical Oncology, Obesity and Weight Management, and Cardiology.

Fellowship Program in Fertility, Embryology, Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Pediatric Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Pathology Oncology, Gynecologic Oncology, Breast Oncology, Interventional Radiology, Orthopedic Oncology, Diabetology, Hypertension, Critical Care Medicine, Training Programs in Oncology Nursing, Lab Technician, Radiation Technician, Advanced Cyto-Pathology and Research in Oncology. Technician, Radiation Technician.




Hon'ble Dr. Louise Mapleh Kpoto  
Minister of Health and Social Welfare,  
Liberia 

## **MERCK FOUNDATION STEM PROGRAM** **Together We Empower Women and Youth** **in Science and Technology**



Girls and women are systematically tracked away from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), throughout their education, limiting their access, preparation and opportunities to go into these fields as adults.

Women make up only 28% of the workforce in STEM, and men vastly out-number women majoring in most STEM fields in college. The gender gaps are particularly high in some of the fastest-growing and highest-paid jobs of the future, like Computer Science and Engineering.



Therefore, Merck Foundation started their STEM Program to empower not only Women, but also Youth in Science and Technology in Africa.

## As part of Merck Foundation STEM Program for Women and Youth

Merck Foundation has conducted **5** editions of “**Merck Foundation Africa Research Summit**” in partnership with African Governments, and African Union (Scientific, Technical & Research Commission). MARS brings together researchers and policy makers from across Africa to prepare for the road ahead in Africa’s development as an international hub for excellence in scientific innovation and define interventions to empower women and youth through education in general and in STEM in particular.

Merck Foundation also annually announces MARS Awards to recognize the “**Best African Women Researchers**” and “**Best Young African Researchers**” with the aim to empower African women researchers & young researchers, advancing their research capacity and promoting their contribution to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).





## MERCK FOUNDATION EDUCATING LINDA PROGRAM

### Supporting Girl Education

Merck Foundation strongly believes that Education is one of the most critical areas of women empowerment. It is also an area that represents some of the distinct examples of discrimination women suffer. As evident in UNICEF's declaration that in Africa, among children not attending school there are twice as many girls as boys, and among illiterate adults there are twice as many women as men. Girls' education is not a luxury.



Studies show that, in areas where there is high poverty and decades of conflict, girls face enormous challenges that limit their ability to get the education they deserve.

## A few of these challenges include:

- Girls face pressure to fulfill traditional roles as housekeepers and mothers rather than go to school.
- High bride prices are set for girls who are 'kept safe' at home.
- Early and forced marriages increase when poor families need the bride price.
- Limited available money for education is typically invested in boys and men.
- Harmful practices, such as Female Genital Mutilation, are still being practiced in many African countries.
- Schools do not provide proper facilities, including sanitation facilities, for girls.
- Girls are at risk of sexual assault on the way to school, or from male peers or teachers
- Continued rape and assault of girls in areas of armed conflict.



When Girls are educated, their countries become more powerful, stronger & prosperous. There is a need for more support as there are many brilliant girls who are struggling financially and socially to meet their educational needs.

Therefore, Merck Foundation started "**Educating Linda**", a pan-African program that is supporting the education of young girls by providing over **1040 scholarships** for high performing and underprivileged African schoolgirls from **18 countries**, empowering them to complete their studies and reach their full potential and also providing essential school items for thousands of schoolgirls in many African countries such as Botswana, Burundi, Malawi, The Gambia, Nigeria, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Namibia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cabo Verde and more.

This program is a part of "Merck Foundation More Than a Mother" campaign.





# MERCK FOUNDATION AFRICA ASIA LUMINARY

## Together for A Better Future

"Merck Foundation Africa Asia Luminary" is a yearly educational conference of Merck Foundation, conducted to contribute to the social and economic development of Africa and Asia. It is attended by more than **6000** Healthcare Providers, Policy Makers, Academia, Researchers and Health Media from more than **70** English, French, Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries annually, to benefit from valuable scientific and social development sessions by top International experts in Diabetes, Fertility, Embryology, Sexual & Reproductive Care, Paediatric emergency, Oncology, Women Health, Cardiovascular Preventive Care, Endocrinology, Respiratory Care, Acute & Critical Care, Psychiatric Care, Internal Medicine and more to contribute to improving disease management, early detection and prevention, building healthcare capacity and improving access to quality and equitable healthcare solutions.

During this annual conference, Merck Foundation conducts four scientific sessions and one community awareness session. The educational sessions are under the umbrella of:

**Merck Foundation More than a Mother Program**

**Merck Foundation Cancer Access Program**

**Merck Foundation Nationwide Diabetes & Hypertension Blue Points Program**

**Merck Foundation Capacity Advancement Program**

**Merck Foundation Health Media Training**

## Merck Foundation Africa Asia Luminary Objectives:

- Contributing to the Social and Economic Development in Africa, Asia, developing countries, and underserved communities.
- Improving Access to Quality and Equitable Healthcare solutions.
- Advancing Healthcare and Media capacities and capabilities.
- Providing Scientific Programs particularly designed to serve the unmet health care needs of Africa, with special focus on disease prevention, early detection and nutritional awareness.
- Engaging Healthcare Providers and Academia to explore educational gaps and to highlight the success of Merck Foundation Programs.
- Bringing together Merck Foundation Alumni, the future experts from Africa and Asia, to exchange experience and discuss the impact of their training programs.
- Addressing the stigma and social perception of infertility, defining interventions to improve access to regulated, safe, and effective fertility care, and breaking the stigma around infertile women in Africa and Asia.
- Providing networking opportunities for Healthcare Experts and Media across Africa and Asia to share their knowledge and experiences.



**12** editions conducted; the nine editions were in seven countries Germany, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Senegal, Ghana, Dubai, India, Tanzania and The Gambia. The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> editions were conducted online.

